

FRIDAY

How do you clean an alligator cage?
See page 5.

UNIVERSITY
ARCHIVES

THE

GATEWAY

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The University of Nebraska at Omaha



— John Hood

Storm clean up

UNO maintenance workers clean up one of three trees damaged as a result of the July 15 storm that swept through the metro area and caused extensive damage to parts of Omaha and Council Bluffs. The trees were the only damage UNO sustained, according to UNO officials.

Johansen 'denied access,' says council 'backwards'

By TIM TRUDELL
News Editor

Bruce Johansen, a UNO communications professor, said he is upset the Nebraska Council on Humanities declined to list him in its catalog of speakers because of a speech impediment.

The council maintains a list of prospective speakers that state-wide groups may contract with to present a variety of topics. Johansen is considered by many to be an expert on American Indian involvement with the formation of the U.S. Constitution.

Johansen said Jennifer Bauman, a representative of the council, notified him through the mail that he had not been selected because of his "handicap" — stuttering. He has stuttered since age 12.

According to a copy of the letter obtained by a Gateway reporter, Bauman said Johansen's topic, "American Indian Contributions to Democracy," was "interesting and unique, but most people agreed that your delivery would detract too much from groups' understanding of your material. The consensus, then, of conference participants was that the program would not be requested by the organizations they represented."

Bauman would not discuss the letter with a Gateway reporter. Her supervisor,

Jane Renner Hood, executive director of the NCH, also declined to comment on specifics of the situation.

However, Hood said it is the policy of the organization not to discriminate against employees or potential grant recipients.

Johansen said he feels both angry and insulted.

"If everyone had their attitude, I'd be sitting on a corner with a tin cup," he said. "People who have that attitude would come by and have pity on me."

Johansen said the NCH is preventing him from having access to people in the state who may be interested in his topic.

"I'm very, very surprised by that backwards attitude," he said. "I have spoken all over the country and have never had such a reception because I can't talk."

Johansen has spoken on American Indian topics at such places as Cornell University, and has been invited to participate in a symposium at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., this fall.

Johansen said he is not impressed by the council's priorities for topics. Hood said the agency has accepted a presentation on "Life as a Nebraska Cornhusker Football Player."

A discrimination suit is a possibility, but Johansen said he will not take any action until he returns to Nebraska in late August. He is currently working in Seattle, Wash.

UNO receives federal grant to prevent Omaha youth drug abuse

By TIM KALDAHL
Senior Reporter

UNO has received a \$131,000 federal grant for a drug prevention program to help eliminate drug abuse among Omaha youths, said Dawn Toyama, coordinator of Let's Live For Tomorrow (LIFT). The program will be funded for two years.

"Teens are impacted through many different factors," Toyama said. LIFT will be administered out of UNO's School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation (HPER). "The greatest influence on kids 14-18 are their peers," she said.

LIFT was the idea of the Mayor's Task Force on Drug Abuse during the Mike Boyle administration. Bernie Simon and now Walt Calinger have been supportive of the plan, Toyama said. The task force itself has lost some steam though, she said.

The target area for the program will be South Omaha. As a site, the area has several things going for it, Toyama said.

"I want to stress we're not using South Omaha because it has a drug problem. It's the same as any other part of the city," she said. The area does, however, have definite boundaries, a sense of community and is ethnically diverse, she said.

A staff of three will hopefully find some office space in South Omaha before the project starts in February, Toyama said. A graduate assistant, a secretary and Toyama will be running the operation, she said.

Peer group leaders, ages 14-18, will be a main focus in prevention, she said. She hopes to get 240 junior high and high school students involved in teaching others to say no to illegal substances. Another 120 adult trainers from business, law enforcement, schools, churches and the media will also interact with area youth.

LIFT also will enlist the help of commu-

nity organizations, she said. The LIFT proposal includes the use of mass media, flyers, decals, promotional spots and community events to help get the message out.

But illegal drugs won't be LIFT's only focus. Preventing alcohol abuse in teens may be more difficult, she said. Arrest records in 1986 show that 480 youths younger than 21 were arrested for driving while intoxicated in Douglas County.

Drugs are illegal for everyone, Toyama said. "Alcohol is much harder to deal with. People don't think of it as a dangerous substance."

Union questions Kiewit's actions

Replacement workers resume construction of UNO bell tower

By TIM TRUDELL
News Editor

Construction on the UNO bell tower resumed July 14 after non-union laborers were hired by Kiewit Construction Co. Union officials claim it is an attempt to break the unions and force workers to accept wage cuts.

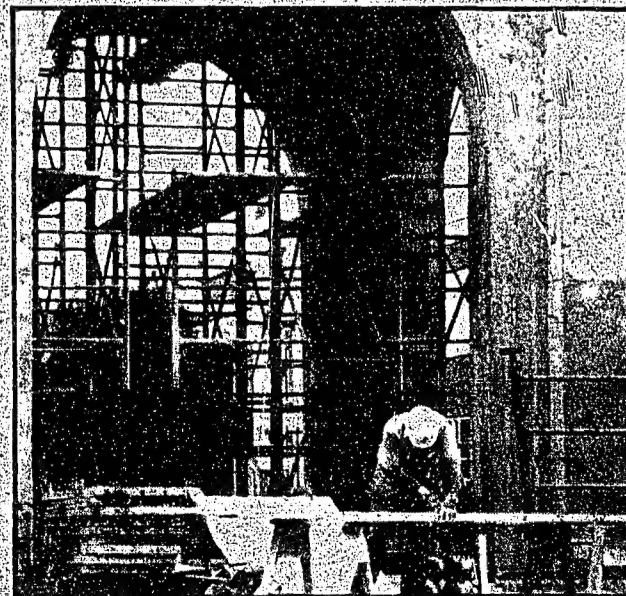
Leo DeWitt, business manager of the International Association of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers Local 21, said the company's hiring of non-union workers "makes a bad situation worse."

"They hired guys from out of town, from out of state," he said. "These guys are looking for jobs, then they get here and find out they're replacing striking workers. And they don't want to stay here, but they don't have any money or way to get back home, so they are forced to stay."

"It makes it bad for the strikers, too. They don't want to be out there picketing. They want to get back to work. Then they see those guys working and they want to work."

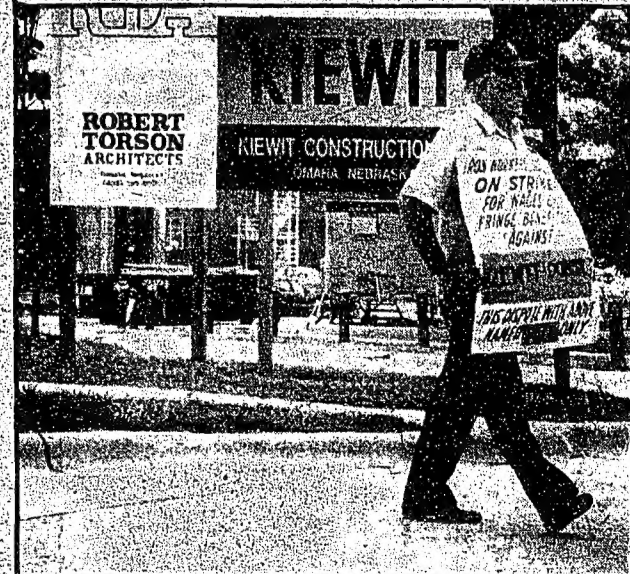
Bob Doyle, labor attorney for the construction company, doesn't agree with DeWitt.

Replacement workers have been hired to finish the



— Saeed Keyhan

Replacement workers resumed Kiewit construction on the bell tower July 14.



— Saeed Keyhan

A striking iron worker continues to picket the construction site while replacement workers work to build the bell tower.

See Strike on page 4

COMMENT

Requiem for the heavyweights Storz Mansion, Canyon sound memories of days gone by

On the wall above the desk where I'm writing this column is an 8-by-10 glossy photo of the late Storz Mansion. It was taken at night with an open shutter by our then-photo editor Akitoshi Kizaki who ran around the house with a flash unit, brightening up the walls while in the background, pinpoints of evening stars filled the sky.

The Storz Mansion is dead. It's been dead and buried for quite a few months now, its history only a pile of rubble and fading pictures like the one looking down on me. And looking up at it now, I wonder what kind of life was lived there and who will remember it.

Meanwhile, downtown a similar loss of history is taking place. Buildings that were once a vital part of our Omaha are being disassembled by wrecking ball and tractor and the same kind of hammers that were once used to put them together so dramatically 100 years or so ago, give or take a decade, I can watch it from the window of the office where I work. A foreman stands in silhouette atop an adjacent building and directs the ball's next punch. A

swing, a thump, and then . . . dust.

As I type this, I can hear the sounds of you out there saying, in a whiney voice, so sympathetically, "Who gives a damn. They were old, ugly buildings and, heck, we're gonna get a beaut of a new park out of the whole deal, not to mention new busi-

Tim McMahan
Gateway Columnist

nesses and jobs, and who is this sawed off punk to write so melodramatically about those buildings that everyone knows are a just a bunch of safety hazards and havens for bums anyway?"

Well, for the most part, I agree with the soulless hoards who are roaring with pleasure every time a wall falls down. Omaha needs more life-blood in the form of business, to keep its delicate heart pumping. I never stood up and fought the

downtown renovation project and the destruction of Jobbers Canyon because, deep down, I knew it was necessary to generate some additional interest in a town populated with too many office buildings and not enough manufacturing sites. Maybe, I thought to myself, this project will pique the ears of a few new companies needing space to build factories.

Yeah, it'll probably look pretty nice when it's done, too. But . . .

How old is your son, sir? He's just three years old? Probably just becoming aware of his surroundings, huh? He'll see this pretty city around him and grow to appreciate its remaining historic buildings, but that'll be it. Sure, there'll be textbooks and stories at barbecues about the old city, but that'll be it. And Jobbers Canyon will never be a part of what he knows as Omaha because we don't ever really believe in things we can't touch.

Progress.

One hundred years ago, someone believed in an Omaha with a Jobbers Canyon

in it. They walked among the giants and felt the shadows dip low in the afternoon sun. They said to each other in a strong, Midwestern voice, "Sir, these buildings will be here for my children and my children's children."

A friend of mine turned to me today and said, "They tore my grandfather's building down today. He had one down in Jobbers. He used to talk about it. Now it's gone." My friend used to stroll among the giants during his lunch hour, but he stopped when they announced its demolition. It was too hard for him. He called it a monument to mortality. He was right.

We must make way for the new. And the old, the past, the monuments to a by-gone era, they have to fade away so the children can build their own memories.

This is my eulogy for Jobbers and the Storz Mansion and all the buildings that are going to fall for progress. This is my requiem for a heavyweight. And as each stroke of the wrecker brings it to its knees, a young, fierce champion, stands in its wake, waiting to make a name for itself.

It wasn't quite like Council Bluffs, but . . .

HPER heroes spring into action during '88 tornado

And then the lights went out . . .

The tornado that slid its way through Omaha and Council Bluffs last Friday left snapped trees and great "where were you when hell broke loose" stories. This is one of them.

I spent most of my time while the sirens were blaring

Tim Kaldahl
Gateway Columnist

among 100 or so dripping wet kids in the bowels of the HPER building. It wasn't the best time in the world, but nobody was crying.

"What is that?" asked Dawn Toyama, project coordinator of the drug abuse program "Let's Intervene for Tomorrow," just as I was starting an interview with her. She arrived here from California six months ago. The sirens were a new sound for her.

Sirens in Omaha mean one of two things. Either the Russians have decided to remodel SAC with a 20-megaton interior designer, or a tornado is just passing by. They don't have earthquake sirens in California.

We found ourselves among the 200 or so people in the hallways of HPER's racquetball and squash courts. People kept pouring in, mostly kids from the pool who had been taking swimming lessons. Another 200 or so were in the Fieldhouse. There had been a basketball camp going on.

I ended up telling Toyama about the really nasty twister of '75 that left an incredible path of devastation. She didn't seem to enjoy the story much.

Remember '75? That giant sky slug ate Lewis and Clark Junior High and the old Nebraska Furniture Mart and took a hunk out of Bergan Mercy Hospital. Four people ended up dead, and the devastation took weeks to clean up, months to rebuild.

The amount of damage done to Council Bluffs really pales in comparison. Still, \$16 million in damages is \$16 million in damages. At least no one's headstone will read: "Blown Away July 15, 1988."

The only real tragedy among our group was the building manager's. The tornado screwed up Jim Paprocki's workout.

"It kind of interrupted my racquetball game," he said. Things were going to get worse before they would get better. And then the lights went out . . .

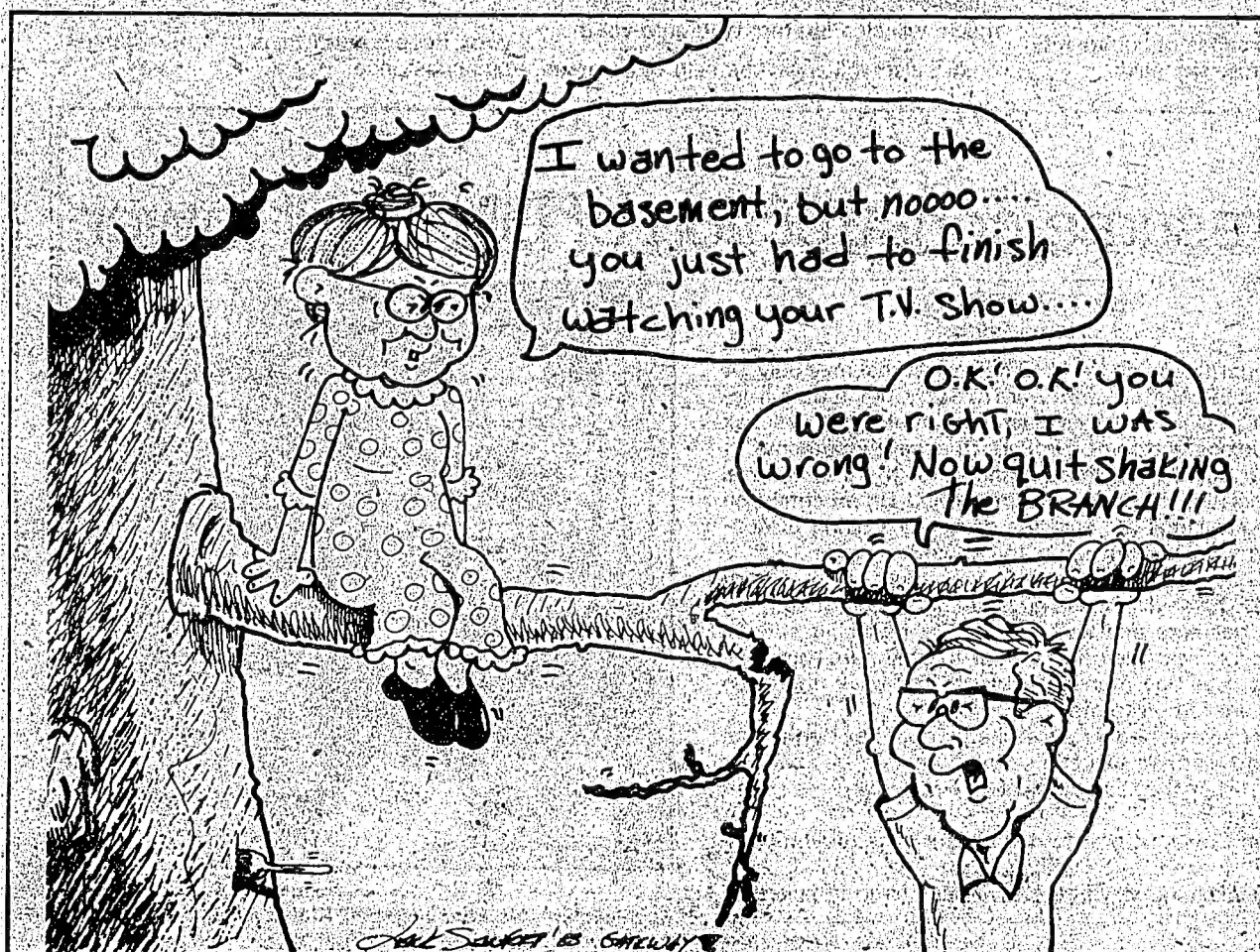
Remember old news reels from London during the blitz in World War II? That's what it looked like in the HPER Building basement. Paprocki and company brought in lanterns from the Outdoor Venture Center. But even with the mood lighting, it wasn't terribly romantic.

Toyama played the good scout and kept the restroom door open for little kids who needed to go. They apparently don't have emergency lights in the toilets at UNO. She kept smiling through it all.

Let's here it for unsung heroes like that on campus. Toyama and Paprocki made the best of a bad situation and kept helping kids around them. It wasn't any big thing they did. It was just treating people decently.

Let's hope everyone has the same spirit during the first days of drop/add when the fall semester starts.

The Gateway . . . Real food for real people



THE GATEWAY

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By LIZ WELLING
Staff Reporter

The advisor said it's important to help teachers prepare students to be interna-

Nebraska lags behind many states in approaching global education, he said.

The issue involved receiving credit for service work, Manley said.

Manley said both committees will begin meeting soon and start reporting to the senate in the fall.

"It's going to get worse before it gets better," he said. "They (Kiewit Construction Co. representatives) haven't met with us for almost a month. They think this ploy will get us to take their cuts and go back to work."

"They have refused to come back to work," he said. "We are trying to faithfully negotiate, but they don't want to listen to us."

Doyle denied the accusation. "We are trying to get the workers to end their strike and sign a contract," he said.

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A DAY IN THE LIFE . . . at the zoo

By JEFFREY S. YORK
Senior Reporter

"I take a lot of pride in my work," said zookeeper John Bradley as he entered the barnyard area of the Henry Doorly Zoo. For Bradley, supervisor of the zoo's children's section, work begins at 7:30 a.m., making his rounds as the self-righteous crow of a rooster scissors through the air.

A 1986 UNO graduate, Bradley has been with the zoo for 10 years. He said the work he does in the two hours before the zoo opens is the most pleasant of his day.

"Mornings are nice and cool," he said. "You get to work with the animals more than you do later in the day. It's a little frustrating when people come in and leave trash all over."

In addition to caring for the animals, Bradley said he and the other keepers are also responsible for minor maintenance and grounds-keeping chores.

The first thing Bradley does every morning is check each animal in his section by taking note of the amount of food each has eaten and the animals' behavior. Through such observation, Bradley said he is able to determine whether or not an animal is ill.

"One of the challenges is to make sure you catch all that before it's too late. An animal won't let you know it's sick until it's pretty far along," he said.



Although the extreme heat and lack of moisture have made this summer an uncomfortable one for many people, Bradley said the conditions haven't seemed to affect the animals.

"They're smart," he said. "When it's hot like this, they just go to sleep — like we should."

After making his rounds, 30-year-old Bradley climbed into a small green cart and drove down to the alligator pool, where he opened the drain. While the water seeped from the tank, he drove to the monkey cages and cleaned them. As he worked, Bradley told of how he came to be a keeper, and later, a supervisor.

Bradley said he started working for the zoo while still a student at the University of Nebraska — Lincoln, taking a summer job in the maintenance department. After transferring to UNO, he began to work as a full-time keeper.

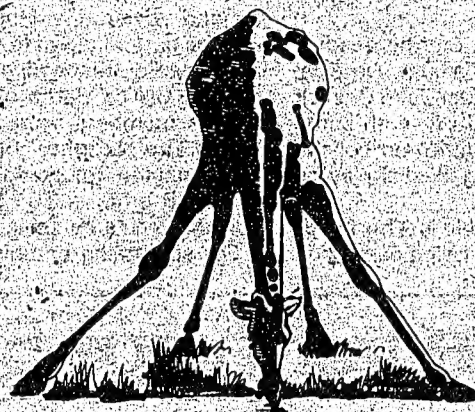
"I've always liked to work around animals," Bradley said. His promotion "kind of snowballed from there," he added.

When he finished cleaning the cages, Bradley aimed his hose into the monkeys' water bowl. A rooster tail of water leapt from the bowl, alarming a band of Japanese macaques (small brown-and-white monkeys) huddled on an overhanging limb.

"You have to believe in what you're doing," Bradley said. "The job is important, especially with the conservation work zoos are doing nowadays."

Moving across the compound into the small-animal building, Bradley was greeted by the high, bird-like call of a golden lion tamarin — a pocket-sized monkey with a wild mane. A note tacked to the wall indicated that each of the five tamarins in the building had a name, but Bradley said he is able to tell them apart merely by sight.

"People don't believe that, but animals have individual characteristics just like we do," he said. "Their personalities are different, too; some are dominant, some are curious and some are jerks."



Despite their size and appearance, Bradley said tamarins aren't as harmless as they seem. He has been bitten often by them, as well as by other animals.

"A lot of animals can kill you," he said. "All of them can hurt you."

For that reason, Bradley said keepers will not enter the cage of a dangerous animal unless it has first been immobilized. To minimize the risk of being bitten by one of the smaller creatures, he said he prefers to gain the trust of an animal rather than try to bully it. "Knowing an animal helps," he said.

When he finished feeding the small animals, Bradley joined a few of his co-workers for a short break near the aviary, then went back to work.

Armed with a long-handled brush and a bag of cleanser, he returned to the alligator tank he started to drain an hour earlier. With the water gone, the alligator sat motionless at the pool's bottom, looking like a forgotten bathtub toy. As soon as Bradley descended into the tank, however, the gator hissed menacingly.

"He's pretty slow without the water," Bradley said. "He never tries anything."

Still, a small crowd gathered. Some asked Bradley if he had ever been attacked; one man speculated to his children

that Bradley may try to wrestle the animal. Taking advantage of the audience's interest, Bradley turned their attention to the debris that had collected at the bottom of the tank.

"It's frustrating to see some of the things people throw," he said, clearing away sticks, rocks, plastic spoons and a pen. Reaching down, he picked up a nickel and put it in his pocket.

"I'll keep the money," he said, "although I'd rather not see any in here."

As he spoke, Bradley scrubbed and rinsed the walls of the tank. The temperature climbed into the 90s, and his shirt quickly became soaked with water and sweat. Throughout most of the cleaning, the alligator was still, resembling a gray-green glob of clay that had been dropped over the side of the pool. Occasionally he received a blast from Bradley's hose to help prod him out of the way.

"Gators aren't that aggressive in captivity," said Bradley, who is originally from Lakeland, Fla. "In fact, about all the lakes in Florida have gators, and people still swim in them."

"Tourists don't know that," he said slyly.

The tank took about one-half hour to clean, and then Bradley was back topside, turning on a nozzle to refill the pool. When it seemed the most sensible thing to do would be lie down in the shade, Bradley put away his supplies and prepared to start another task. Throughout the morning, he moved from one job to another as if he feared he would run out of day before he ran out of work.

"It's a full-time job," he said, looking at the beginnings of a concrete walkway that would serve as an alternate route around the sea otter tank.

As Bradley carried the concrete blocks uphill to the work area, his assistant, Darlene Klimek, grabbed a shovel and began to level the ground where the next block would lie. Dropping a block into place, Bradley surveyed it and saw that it did not rest evenly. Even after tamping it down with his foot, the block still would not lay squarely.

"You jump on it," he said to the diminutive Klimek. "You weigh more."

Klimek threatened him mockingly with her shovelful of dirt. "I bet fine dirt would stick to sweat real well," she said.

The two worked that way for nearly an hour, off-setting the heaviness of the work with the lightness of their spirits, and made considerable progress on the walkway by the time they broke for lunch. Admiring their work, they talked about the work to be done that afternoon. There was grass to mow, cages to clean and animals to feed. As he started to leave, Bradley reflected on his job and what keeps him doing it.

"You've got to love what you're doing," he said, driving the cart back and parking it near the zoo entrance.

Although it was barely noon, Bradley looked as if he had worked a full day. His shirt was plastered to his back, and drops of sweat fell freely from his face and arms.

Walking out through the parking lot, he picked up a stray gum wrapper from the asphalt and wadded it into a tiny ball. Throwing it away, Bradley headed out for something to eat and a chance to sit down.

Circle Theatre does OK with 'Radio Cafe'

The Circle Theatre has an OK show on its hands with *The Radio Cafe*, a new play by Omaha's Michele Phillips. It recreates 1940s radio theatre in Benson's Vidlak Family Cafe (which is a period piece in itself), and it's rather entertaining despite some uneven acting and a few weaknesses in the script.

With *The Radio Cafe*, the Circle Theatre returns to the sweet, moralistic story line that typified its first productions, the "Phil's Diner" series written by Douglas Marr, one of the Circle Theatre founders. It's all about a nice girl, Rita, who works in a diner and would rather live the life of her favorite radio drama characters. As you've probably already guessed, Rita finds out that the stars and their glamorous lives aren't

really what they seem to be, and she's content with her own life after all.

This is Rosanne Longe's second show in the diner theatre, and she turned in a fine performance in the lead role of Rita. She's on stage (or should I say "in diner?") for the duration of the one-act script, and she carries the show both in acting and singing.

The remainder of the cast played dual roles. In the first part of the script we are introduced to the central characters of Rita's life; in the second part they return in her imagination in the roles of her favorite radio stars.

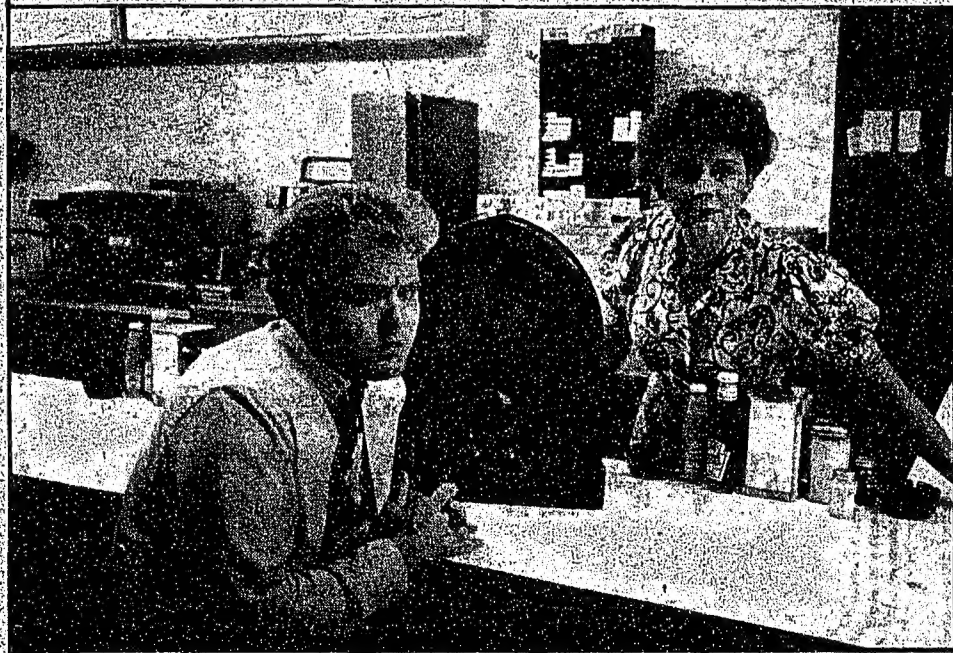
Tim Smith turned in some fine acting and singing as both Homer, Rita's steady, and Lamont Cranston of *The Shadow* serial. As Homer, he sports a

bow tie and a Howdy-Doody kind of idealism. Then he dons a trench coat and is transformed immediately into a worldly alter ego.

Laura Marr is applauded too for her versatility. She starts out as Polly, a waitress in the diner. Then she slips on a sleek black dress and rhinestones for her metamorphosis into Mary Noble, Backstage Wife. She is accompanied by Brent Noel who does very well as Larry Noble, but isn't as convincing in his "real life" part as Rita's brother, Jack.

Marr and Noel sing a brief duet in this play. Neither of them really have solo-quality voices, but they can carry a tune, and that's enough for their parts. They are, after all, the faces of Rita's everyday life playing the roles of her imagination. It's conceivable they can't sing in Rita's "real life," either, so vocal quality isn't an issue in this production.

Margaret Rose Gibbs manages to embody successfully both the strict but



Rita (Rosanne Longe, right) and her beau, Homer (Tim Smith) tune into the imaginary world of radio in the Circle Theatre's production of *The Radio Cafe*.

Judith Bieker

State of the Arts

sweet school teacher Miss Jordan and the bawdy Stella Dallas. Like Marr and Noel, Gibbs doesn't have a strong voice, but she's got a great knack for characterization, and that goes a long way.

Tom Neumann gave a nice cameo as Howie, the delivery boy and as Jack Armstrong, all-American boy. It's amazing what some people can do with only a few lines.

Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for Belinda Acosta in her dual role

See *Radio Cafe* on page 6



WEEKEND WIRE . . . Tar Babies, JAM and Nude Guitars

The place to be tonight to get your weekend off to a rocking start is Sokol Hall at the corner of 13th and Martha Streets. Main Vein Productions is presenting another in a series of rock shows featuring both up and coming national acts as well as some of Omaha's finest home-grown groups.

The Tar Babies, from Madison, Wis., are the headliners. They recently released their second album, *No Contest*, on the SST label. Main Vein's promoter John C. Wolf classified their sound as "eclectic punk-funk, with some saxophone." The band is currently a favorite on college radio stations nationwide and is receiving local airplay on KRCK.

The second national act on tonight's bill is The Magnolias from Minneapolis, Minn. They are being carried on

their home town record label Twin Tone. Other acts that got their start on Twin Tone include The Replacements and Soul Asylum.

Omaha's Big Muff Pie and The Sleez Kangs will also be appearing tonight. BMF includes promoter Wolf on guitar and vocals, Jim Homan on guitar. Wolf and Homan may be better known for their work in Cellophane Ceiling and Apathy, respectively. The Sleez Kangs, which took third at UNO's Battle of the Bands earlier this summer, feature members from Omaha's legendary underground bands The Naughty Virgins and R.A.F.

Admission for tonight's show, which should start around 8 p.m., is \$5. That's quite a bargain when you consider you'll be seeing four bands.

For something completely different from the show at

Sokol, The Saddlecreek Bar and Grill, 1410 Saddlecreek Road, offers J.A.M. (Just Acoustic Music). The line-up includes a variety of Omaha's finest acoustic performers.

The J.A.M. show presents Celtic Wind which specializes in Irish Music, John Rice playing the blues and Tom May performing folk music. Also featured will be Phyllis Dunne on the Appalachian mountain dulcimer and Curly Ennis playing traditional bluegrass music. The show begins at 8 p.m., and the suggested donation is \$5. Proceeds will go to J.A.M., a non-profit organization which helps unite Omaha's acoustic performers.

However, if older, more-established performers are more your style, then Omaha's Civic Auditorium is the

See Weekend on page 7

Radio Cafe from page 5

of diner owner Mrs. Gibbs and the adventurous Helen Trent. Acosta sings very well, but her acting is uneven. She delivers her lines with an obtrusive emphasis on many of the words.

The one thing over all that strikes me about this play is that it is incomplete in too many ways.

For example, we learn that Rita's brother had dated Polly at one time, but Polly married someone else. The potential for dramatic tension here is explored briefly in real life and in Rita's imagination, but that's not enough. It should have been developed further or never brought up.

Ditto for school teacher Miss Jordan. She's a superfluous personality written into the script only to give us a few connecting lines of dialogue and an alter ego.

Only the main character, Rita, and her boyfriend have a discernible beginning and end (Rita also gets a "middle").

Can you see what happens here? A character is introduced to us and we start to care about him or her. But then the new person disappears as though there was never anyone on stage in the first place.

Sure, it happens in real life all of the time. But good fiction doesn't work that way. Characters with names and histories must be relevant to the overall structure of the story. To do otherwise is to cheat the audience as well as the character.

The common theme of all of these "incomplete" characters is a decision to keep from pursuing their heart's desire, something Rita has been badgering all of them to do even though she will not do it for herself. Never mind that

these people seem to be happy with their choices.

To Phillips' credit, the ending doesn't have Rita quitting her diner job and leaving for Radio City Music Hall. Instead, *The Radio Cafe* concludes with the res-

olution of a misunderstanding between Homer and Rita.

As I said, it's sweet and moral and wholly unoffensive to anyone who wants complete characters. Take your mom. She'll like it a lot.

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'Make My Day . . .'

'Dead Pool' retains spirit of 'Dirty Harry' films

Although the films of Clint Eastwood as "Dirty Harry" occasionally violate political tenets in which I believe, he nonetheless sustains an inexpressible aura about him.

"The Dead Pool" — the latest "Dirty Harry" film — opens with images of a night-time urban landscape. Within its first several moments, the film introduces its interlocking narrative elements, the recent trial of a gangland kingpin presented on television news in the room of a menacing character. As we watch, the anchor reports the indispensable assistance of one Harry Callahan (alias "Dirty Harry") in a conviction. Moments later, Harry, driving at night, is ambushed by four armed men. When the

convoluted, fast-paced plot classic to "Dirty Harry" films. Not a foot of film is wasted as each incident influences the outcome to some extent.

Several of "Dirty Harry's" classical mannerisms remain, some — such as his facial twitch — have become so caricatured that they enter the realm of parody. His "marvelous," muttered so characteristically under his breath, brings a smile, as does his comment about marshmallows and wieners later in the film.

But Dirty Harry remains very much the same character: honest and committed above all else, he shuns bureaucracy and ostentation; detesting ceremony and appearances, he remains sarcastic and caustic, clever, witty and above all else, very accomplished with his work.

With such a strong personality on which to base their film, "The Dead Pool" nonetheless offers several likable supporting characters. On this occasion his partner, a soft spoken Chinese-American named Al Quan (Evan C. Kim), generates considerable amusement through sarcastic remarks about the police department's reaction to his ethnicity and humorous comments about his family's suggestions for his work.

The filmmakers have not omitted a love interest for Harry. In this case, she is a professional; an accomplished television news reporter and anchor who works hard and effectively. Needless to say, although she does demonstrate considerable courage in several instances, she does not approach Harry for fearlessness. Then again, who could?

Liam Neeson, so effective as the wrongly accused killer

in "Suspect," turns in a wonderful performance as the enigmatic horror film master whose motivations remain unclear for much of the film.

If you wondered whether a new angle on the San Francisco car chase sequence would be possible, "The Dead

"Also 'The Dead Pool' is the latest in a long line of 'Dirty Harry' movies, he has yet to become a stale character."

Pool" suggests that it is. Although a scene in which a remote-controlled car armed with explosives chases Harry is riddled with improbability, cinematically, it works wonderfully well.

I had only a few complaints. Why did Harry have to shoot his assailant in the back in that early scene? And his attack on the villain seems excessively violent even by "Dirty Harry" standards.

I enjoyed "The Dead Pool," my attention was held from opening to closing frame. Despite some rather significant implausibilities, the film moves along at a rapid pace. And although "The Dead Pool" is latest in a long line of "Dirty Harry" movies, he has yet to become a stale character.

Wire from page 6

place for you tonight.

Headlining is **George Thorogood and the Delaware Destroyers** on tour with his new album, **Born to be Bad**. If you loved his last live album and his recent videos, you'll go crazy over lonesome George and company in concert.

Opening up for Thorogood is guitarist **Brian Setzer**, formally of the rockabilly band **The Stray Cats**. He is currently touring in support of his second solo album, **Live Nude Guitars**.

The show starts at 8 p.m. and tickets are \$17. If you haven't gotten your tickets yet, you'd better. This may be the guitar battle of the century.

— DAVID YELLS

Elizabeth Tape

Cinema

smoke has cleared, four men are dead; needless to say, none of them Harry.

An occult-worship ritual turns out to be a scene from a new horror film from the horror specialist Peter Swan (Liam Neeson). When his star dies 15 minutes later under suspicious circumstances, Harry comes onto the scene and tosses the camera of ambitious young reporter Samantha Walker (Patricia Clarkson) into the nearby street when she violates the privacy of a distraught loved one.

The investigation into this murder — and several ensuing — and the recent gangland trial provide the substance of the film's remaining narrative, featuring a

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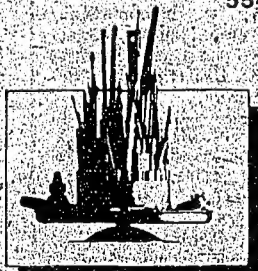
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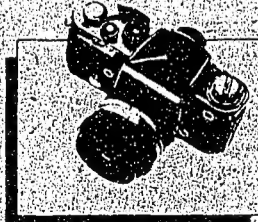
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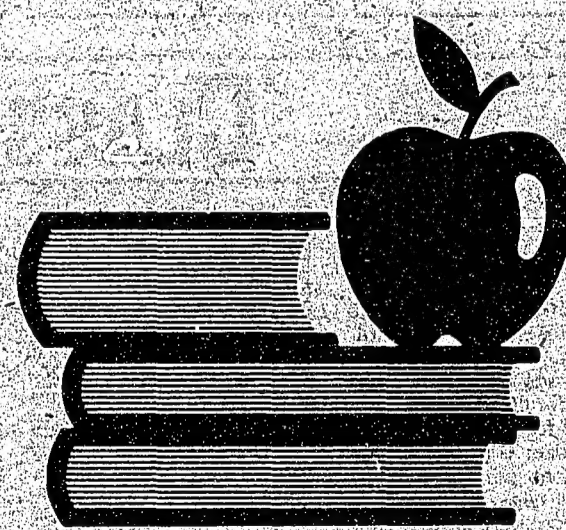
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SPORTS

San Antonio bound? Thompson seeks Texas job

By JOHN ROOD
Editor

University of Texas — San Antonio officials confirmed Tuesday that UNO Athletic Director Bobby Thompson is one of seven finalists for the school's AD position.

Thompson, who joined the Mav's staff in 1985, survived a search committee's look at 77 applications to stay in the running for the Division I job.

When Thompson did get the news about the much sought-after job, it wasn't from the most likely of sources, according to UNO Sports Information Director Gary Anderson.

"He found out from a reporter in San Antonio," Anderson said.

Anderson said Thompson discussed the opportunity with him before leaving on a university tour of western Nebraska with UNO Chancellor Del Weber.

"He told me there were two reasons," Anderson said, "the attraction of a Division I school and also that he's from that part of the country."

If Thompson does get the job, UNO will be sorry to see him go, Anderson said. "I think he's done an excellent job here."

When Thompson assumed the AD's position in 1985, it wasn't under the best of circumstances, Anderson said. His popular predecessor, Don Leahy, had just assumed the athletic director's post at Creighton University, and the Legislature was in the midst of cuts that ended up totaling about \$500,000 from the department's budget.

"He came in here during a difficult time and have really come through," Anderson said. Under Thompson's leadership, UNO has expanded its fund-raising projects, allowing it to salvage some sports and improve facilities, he said.

Nevertheless, if Thompson does decide to leave, UNO will survive, Anderson said.

"I don't want to put this the wrong way, but we sur-

vived losing a good athletic director when Don Leahy went to Creighton, and it wouldn't be a pleasant thing to see another good one (Thompson) go, too.

"But if it's a step that would be up the career ladder, and it's a job he feels is for him, then I wish him well. UNO athletics will survive," he said.

Anderson said competition for the UNO job would be stiff because of Omaha's location and the school's tradition. If Thompson does leave, the school will lose only its fourth AD since World War II, he said.

"I don't think there are too many businesses that have kept division heads as long as we've kept our people," Anderson said.

Recently though, the athletic department has been challenged by several coaching vacancies. Former volleyball Coach Janice Kruger vacated the position to assume the head coaching job at the University of Maryland. Her assistant, Susie Homan, also left the school. Head softball Coach Chris Miner gave up the coaching reins in May because of fund-raising demands.

Anderson said the Legislature's budget cuts probably didn't enter into the other decisions.

"I think we're just going through a cycle. We've had an amazingly stable coaching staff over the years."

Anderson pointed to long-time coaching veterans such as Kruger, football Coach Sandy Buda and basketball Coach Bob Hanson.

"When you look around the league, compared to other (North Central Conference) schools, we've had an extremely stable staff."

"I know it's not because of budget cuts. If that were the case, we would have lost our coaches three years ago," he said.

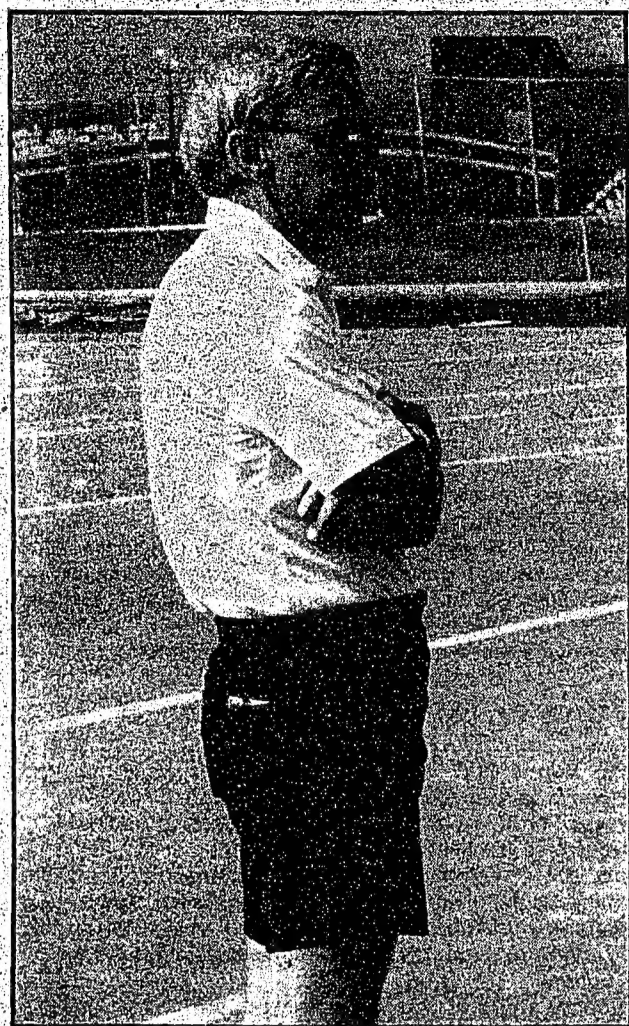
"This is a way of life in college athletics anymore, no matter what division you're in."

Anderson's counterpart in Texas, Rick Nixon, said fund-raising will be an important part of the next AD's job at San Antonio.

"There's been a problem with that in the past," he said. According to Nixon, San Antonio does share some similarities with UNO, despite its Division I status. The school has an enrollment of just under 13,000 students. It recently added a few dormitories, but remains mostly a commuter campus.

The athletic department jumped to Division I status in 1981. The men compete in the Trans-America Athletic Conference, while the women compete as independents.

University President James Wagener is expected to announce a final decision on the position some time after Aug. 1.



Thompson, who joined the UNO staff in 1985, is the school's fourth athletic director since World War II.

Squirt



by Jack Sanford



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